

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-09 CIAE-00 INR-10
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DRAFTED BY COMM/NOAA/NMFS: K TOMLINSON:JJ
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/FA: J A STORER
COMM/NOAA/NMFS: M KRAVANJA
STATE-EUR/SOV: J COLBERT 632-3071

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-----115501 260604Z /21

R 252046Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, UR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR DECLASSIFICATION OF REFTEL

REF: LENINGRAD 1335, MAY 4, 1978

1. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), NOAA, COMMERCE WOULD APPRECIATE DECLASSIFICATION OF ALL OR PART OF PARAGRAPHS 2, AND 3 OF REFTEL FOR NMFS FILES AND EVENTUAL DISTRIBUTION TO THE U.S. FISHING INDUSTRY. NMFS IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN OBTAINING DECLASSIFICATION OF THE FOURTH SUBPARAGRAPH OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFTEL.

2. NMFS WOULD APPRECIATE ADVANCE NOTICE OF VISITS BY CONSULATE-GENERAL OFFICERS TO FISHERY-RELATED CITIES
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OR PROVINCES.

3. NMFS WOULD APPRECIATE CONSULATE'S COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING: REFTEL REPORTED THAT THE 1977 SOVIET CATCH WAS 700,000 METRIC TONS (T) BELOW THE 1976 CATCH. HOWEVER, STATISTICS PUBLISHED IN MARCH OR APRIL 1978 BY THE CENTRAL STATISTICAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS INDICATE THAT THE 1977 SOVIET CATCH WAS 900,000 T BELOW THE 1976 CATCH. THESE

FIGURES GIVE THE 1977 CATCH OF FISH, MARINE MAMMALS, AND OTHER AQUATIC PRODUCTS AS 9.6 MILLION T, ALMOST A 9 PERCENT DECLINE FROM THE 1976 CATCH OF 10.5 MILLION T. EVEN IF THE UNREVISED 1976 CATCH FIGURE OF 10.4 MILLION T (RELEASED IN THE 1976 EDITION OF SSSR V TSIFRAKH) IS USED, THE DECLINE IN THE SOVIET CATCH BETWEEN 1976 AND 1977 IS 800,000 T.

4. NMFS WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

--WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER FROM SEVRYBA?

--CAN YOU PROVIDE ANY STATISTICS ON SEVRYBA'S 1977 CATCH?

--WHY ARE THERE FEW FISHING COLLECTIVES OR STATE FARMS IN THE NORTHERN BASIN (UNLIKE THE BALTIC AREA)?

--REFERENCE TO NIAMEY WAS NOT UNDERSTOOD. IS IT A FISHING GROUND OFF WEST AFRICA?

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--HOW MANY OF SEVRYBA'S 50,000 EMPLOYEES ARE FISHERMEN?

5. NMFS WOULD APPRECIATE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING SOVIET MINFISH ATTEMPT TO PAY FISHERMEN THE AVERAGE WAGES OF PREVIOUS YEARS DESPITE DECLINING CATCHES AT PRESENT. IF MOSCOW HAS ANY INFORMATION ON THIS, IT WILL BE APPRECIATED.

6. CONSULATE GENERAL MAY WANT TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE ABOVE POINTS WITH J.A. STORER (OES/OFA) AND ROBERT L. EDWARDS (NMFS) WHO WILL BE VISITING LENINGRAD SHORTLY WITH CONGRESSMAN LEGGETT.

7. NMFS GREATLY APPRECIATES CONSUL GENERAL'S ALERT REPORTING ON SEVRYBA AND HOPES FOR A SIMILAR REPORT ON HIS TRIP TO ARCHANGELSK. CHRISTOPHER

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